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DELEGATES TO THE ELEVENTH NATIONAL 4-H CLUB CAMP

Washington, D. C., June 17 - 23, 1937

MISSISSIPPI

<u>Delegate</u>	<u>County</u>
James Gannaway. . . . .	De Soto
Nevella Harris. . . . .	Pike
Winford Miller. . . . .	Copiah
Tressa Lee Morris . . . . .	Marion

Mr. Gannaway writes:

"My most successful project was a purebred Guernsey dairy calf. I bought this calf in March 1936. I selected the calf because she was a good show type and her pedigree showed a line of high production. My purpose in buying the calf was to form the foundation of my future herd and to show her as a 4-H club calf at the Mid-South Fair in Memphis, Tenn.

"I kept the calf on pasture, feeding her grain twice a day and all the hay she needed. In July I began preparing her for the show ring. Blanketing and confining her to a dark stall in the daytime, I allowed her to graze at night. Each day I gradually trained her to lead. I washed her with soap and water several times, and brushed her twice daily. The hair on her head was closely trimmed, and her horns and hoofs were polished. I entered her in the 4-H club class and also in the open class for all senior heifer calves. I won first prize in the De Soto County Club Class, also shared in the group prize of the 4-H club team showing Guernseys. In the open class in competition with the Gayoso Farm and other out-of-State herds I won fourth place.

"My farm-accounting project was one of the most interesting as well as helpful projects I have completed. I entered this contest because I felt that keeping a detailed farm-account record like this would be beneficial to me in the future. This record was long and complicated but grew more interesting as it progressed. My father does general farming, cotton and corn as well as dairy farming, necessitating keeping different records. I won the county award, but was unable to compete for the State and National prizes, due to the failure of enough counties of the State to turn in record books.

"I entered the pig club in 1935 and have been a member since. I bought a purebred Hampshire gilt, May 16, 1935, which weighed 53 pounds. I kept a record of her for 5 months and 20 days. On November 4 she weighed 200 pounds, a gain of 147 pounds, or 26 pounds per month. I won the county prize, first place, and the Thomas E. Wilson award for county livestock champion.

"I continued this project in 1936 with the plan of raising a ton litter, but my sow only farrowed five pigs, killing two of these. At the end of this record in 1936 the sow weighed 500 pounds and the pigs, 325 pounds. Due to the fact of feeding a large sow and only three pigs, my profit was small."

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Miss Harris has done work in the following projects during the 4 years she has been a club member: Foods, 3 years; home improvement, 4 years; garden-canning, 4 years; and clothing, 2 years.

She has made 21 exhibits in her county and community, and 8 exhibits for State fair for which she won four blue ribbons and a trip to State Club Congress. She has given 20 demonstrations in garden-canning, and entered 11 judging contests. She also gave 20 food demonstrations, serving a total of 141 persons. Nevella holds a certificate of participation for entering the county contest in clothing in 1935.

She has served 320 meals; made 18 new dishes; improved 5 rooms; made 45 articles of clothing; canned 582 quarts of vegetables, fruits, and preserves; and prepared 273 meals. Her total sales in club work amount to \$281.49.

Due to the fact that the club could not get a leader, Nevella served as assistant leader 3 years, and with the aid of her sister obtained a room for use as a club room. Nevella has served her club as president 3 years; has been garden-canning captain, and on various social and financial committees. She has assisted 78 club members; 40 are completing the work.

She has attended leader- and officer-training meetings and as a result of contest training collected materials for community and county contests. For 3 years her club had a difficult time, there was little interest in the club; this year they have 23 members. Twenty-two of these entered the community contests and are doing good work.

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Mr. Miller writes:

"During my years in the 4-H club I have learned how and when to plant crops, how to prevent soil erosion, how to use a balanced fertilizer, when to apply it, and how much fertilizer to use to the acre. I have also learned how and when to select seed corn. I find that my yield is increased by using well-selected seed.

"I have had one or more projects every year since I joined the 4-H club and have been successful with them. One dry year, when the farmers

of this community made short corn crops, my club acre produced more than 50 bushels as a result of the better breaking, fertilization, and cultivation, which I had been taught in club work. I have learned that some soil is better adapted to one crop than it is to another.

"One of the most important things I have gotten out of 4-H club work has been the knowledge of soil building.

"I served as group captain of my club for 2 years, and then was elected secretary. The next year I was vice president, and the following year, president. I served on the county executive committee for 1 year to make plans for the annual club camp. The next year I was elected vice president of the county, and in 1936 I was president of the county executive organization.

"In 1936 we had a rally, a camp, and our first Achievement Day. I have made a number of exhibits at the county fair at Hazlehurst, the Seven-County Fair at Brookhaven, and the State fair at Jackson.

"The 4-H club has helped our community in many ways. Our farmers are practicing improved methods of farming because of 4-H club work. They break their land deeper and better, use more and a better-balanced fertilizer, try to prevent soil erosion, select better seeds, grow more legumes, and plant hundreds of pounds of seed for winter cover crops to be plowed under in the spring. They also practice crop rotation and improved methods of cultivation. They have learned from the boys that a good dust mulch will conserve moisture during dry weather. They have fuller corncribs, and better cotton crops, in fact, better crops of all kinds, due to the influence of 4-H club work."

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Miss Morris took advantage of all that 4-H club work offers girls when she started her club work. She worked with the following projects: Home improvement, 6 years; poultry, 3 years; garden-canning, 4 years; foods, 4 years; and clothing, 3 years.

She has improved five rooms, made lawn furniture, papered walls, refinished floors, woodwork, and furniture. She has made 16 articles for the home; planted 17 vegetables in her garden; conserved 237 jars of fruit, vegetables, and preserves; raised 100 chickens out of 118 hatched; prepared 83 meals, 48 dishes; and made 10 articles of clothing.

Out of 35 exhibits she has won seven first and two second places. She has entered seven community contests, two county contests, and one State contest.

Since 1931 her club has had 83 contestants in the community contests, 12 in the county contests, and 4 in the State contests. The members have exhibited 97 articles at club shows, 35 club products at county fairs, and 5 at State fairs.



"Her club has had 100-percent completions since 1934. Tressa Lee has assisted the captains in making monthly reports, as well as serving as captain.

"As president of the club she instructed the officers in making a new enrollment of members. She has sold magazines and made and sold sandwiches for the club. She ordered a club uniform pattern and let the girls make their uniforms from it; the result being seven new uniforms in the club. Tressa Lee has helped to serve lunches to school children; canned in community centers, assisted girls to county contests by taking them in her car, taken part in a play to help demonstration club raise money, served plates at banquets and clubs for the club women, helped to raise money for her club so that delegates could be sent to the Club Congress, and helped her mother to collect exhibits for county exhibitions. She has given talks, read reports, presided as president, and attended all club meetings during the entire 5 years of her club work.

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Extension Service,  
U. S. Department of Agriculture.